(a) the issues discussed in the meeting of the National Integration Council held on the 31st December, 1991 in Delhi ; and

(b) what decisions have been taken in pursuance thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) The Council discussed the situation in Jammu & Kashmir and in Punjab.

(b) A combined resolution on the two issues was passed by the Council. No specific in action pursuance thereof is called for by the Government. A series of measures have however been taken by the Government to deal with the situation in J & K and Punjab.

Crimes against Women

*380. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news reports published in the 'Statesman' of the 7th March, 1992 and 'Indian Express' (Magazine) of the 8th March, 1992 regarding increasing crimes against women ;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the cases regarding crimes against women *i.e.* rape, torture, kidnapping and dowry deaths have doubled during the last decade ;

(c) if so, the number of such cases during the years 1985 and 1990 and so far in 1992 ; and

(d) what steps Government have taken so far to save the honour, dignity and life of women ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) Government are aware of these reports.

(b) and (c) The registration investigation detection and prevention of crimes including those against women are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. Available information showing the number of cases of crimes against women including rape, torture, kidnapping and dowry deaths registered during the years 1983, 1985, 1989, 1990 and 1991 is given in the statement I (*See* below).

(d) Information on the steps taken by the Government is given in the statement II. (*See* below)

Statement-I

Number of Cases of Crimes committed against Women (All India) during 1983, 1985, 1989, 1990 *and* 1991

Sl. No.	Crime	1983	1985	1989	1990	1991*
1	Rape	5298	6356	9150	9518	9113
2	Molestation	11814	15160	20497	20194	19555
3	Kidnapping & Abduction	6446	8440	11673	11699	11713
4	Eve-teasing	2934	3531	9934	8620	9711
5	Dowry death	427	990	4215	4836	4856
	TOTAL :	26919	34477	55469	54867	54945

NOTE : 1. Figures are based on monthly crime statistics and are provisional.

2. Collection of information on the above subject was starred in 1983.

*3. Data from some States and Union Territories hasn ot been received for few months and hence is incomplete.

Statement-II

Steps taken by the Government to check crimes against women

1. The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 was amended in 1984 and 1986 to make provisions more stringent and effective.

2. The Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have been amended by the Cirminal Law (Second Amendment) Aet, 1983 to deal effectively with cases of cruelty to married women.

3. Standing instructions have been issued for investigations of dowry death cases by the officer not below the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police. The post-mortem is to be done by a team of two doctors and disposal of the dead body is not to be allowed without post-mortem.

4. Instructions have been issued to the State Governments from time to time to take effective action for prevention and detection of crimes against women.

5. The Department of Women & Child Development have also taken measures for removal of flaws in the existing legislation pertaining to women. A National Commission has been set up and assistance is being given to organisations involved in the uplift of women.

Orchid Society of Arunachal Pradesh

3497. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Orchid Society of Arunachal Pradesh has identified vast numbers of orchids which are not found in other parts of India ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether the Society has earned popularity in orchid gardening and preservation of ecological balance among the orchid lovers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Information regarding the number of species identified by the Orchid Society of Arunachal Pradesh is not available. However according to the Botanical Survey of India which is the nodal agency for surveys on the flora of India about 410 orchid species have been found so far in Arunachal Pradesh out of which less than 25 species are endemic to the State.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Impact of environment policy on development aid flow

3498. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Lack of environment policy block development aid flow" appearing in the 'Economic Times' New Delhi dated the 24th February, 1992 ;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the recommendations/observations of the core group in the Agriculture Ministry on the lack of comprehensive policy or legislation on environment, which is likely to block the flow of developmental assistance from major donor countries ; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ?